

INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY

Exchange of notes at Washington January 30 and February 13, 1942

Entered into force February 13, 1942

*Amended by agreement of February 19 and March 19, 1951*¹

56 Stat. 1842; Executive Agreement Series 294

The Salvadoran Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Secretary of State

[TRANSLATION]

LEGATION OF EL SALVADOR
WASHINGTON

JANUARY 30, 1942

MR. SECRETARY OF STATE:

Complying with instructions received from my Government, I have the honor to request Your Excellency's kind cooperation in the following matter:

Public Act No. 375,² approved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, assigns a sum not greater than twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) for cooperating with the Governments of the Central American republics in the study and building of the Pan American Highway. The Government of El Salvador, after having signed the corresponding loan contract with the Export-Import Bank of Washington, is ready to continue work on the Pan American Highway, which is already quite well advanced, the National Legislative Assembly having approved for that purpose by Decree No. 109, published in the *Diario Oficial* of December 24 last, an extraordinary budget amounting to the sum of one million *colones* (\$1,000,000) for the financing of the building of one third of what remains to be built of the section of the Pan American Highway belonging to El Salvador.

My Government takes the liberty of most courteously requesting the Government of the United States of America to authorize the Office of Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, to take the steps necessary to render effective, so far as El Salvador is concerned, the cooperation contemplated in Public Act No. 375 mentioned above.

I take the liberty of enclosing with this note two certified copies of Legislative Decree No. 109, mentioned above.³

¹ 2 UST 1840; TIAS 2318.

² 55 Stat. 860.

³ Not printed here.

I thank you in advance for the courteous consideration which Your Excellency may be pleased to give this matter.

I take great pleasure in availing myself of this new opportunity to repeat to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

C. A. ALFARO
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
of El Salvador

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A-815.4

His Excellency
CORDELL HULL,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

The Secretary of State to the Salvadoran Minister

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON
February 13, 1942

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Legation's kind note of January 30, 1942 in which the cooperation of the Government of the United States was requested in the construction of the Inter-American Highway in El Salvador, and the assurances required by Public Law 375 of December 26, 1941 were offered in connection with such cooperation.

I take pleasure in informing you that the assurances offered are satisfactory to this Government. It is consequently the intention of this Government to extend to the Salvadoran Government the cooperation envisaged in the Law, subject to the appropriation of the necessary funds by the Congress of the United States and to the receipt of the necessary assurances from the other Republics mentioned in the Law.

You are, of course, aware that by the terms of the Law the survey and construction work which it authorizes shall be under the administration of the Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency. It is understood that the competent Salvadoran authorities are now making a subsidiary agreement with the Administration to carry out this provision of the Law.

I am much gratified at the prospect that through this cooperative undertaking it will be possible to complete the Inter-American Highway through El Salvador. Transportation facilities will be improved, new lands and new natural resources developed, additional markets opened, and local economic conditions benefitted through the useful expenditure of money which this project envisages. Both of our countries should happily profit therefrom.

I sincerely trust that the Highway will serve not only as a link to increase material intercourse between our nations but also as another bond in the close friendship which unites us.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

SUMNER WELLES

The Honorable

Señor Dr. Don HECTOR DAVID CASTRO,

Minister of El Salvador.